

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A porous metal oxide material in a flake form having a specific surface area of 110 to 3000 m²/g, an average particle diameter of 5 to 500µm, an average thickness of 0.1 to 5µm, ~~and~~ an average aspect ratio of 5 to 300, a peak fine pore diameter of 2 to 20 nm, and an oil absorption of 120ml/100g or more.
2. (canceled)
3. (currently amended) The porous metal oxide material in a flake form according to Claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein the porous metal oxide material in a flake form is obtained by applying a colloid solution containing colloidal particles of the metal oxide having a particle diameter of 5 to 500 nm on a substrate, drying to solidify the colloid solution, delaminating the resultant solid from the substrate, and heating the solid.
4. (original) The porous metal oxide material in a flake form according to Claim 1, wherein the porous metal oxide material in a flake form primarily contains at least one kind selected from the group consisting of silicon dioxide (SiO₂), magnesium oxide (MgO), aluminum oxide (Al₂O₃), zirconium oxide (ZrO₂), zinc oxide (ZnO), chrome oxide (Cr₂O₃), titanium dioxide (TiO₂), antimony trioxide (Sb₂O₃), and iron oxide (Fe₂O₃).
5. (original) The porous metal oxide material in a flake form according to Claim 4, wherein the metal oxide material is silicon dioxide or primarily contains silicon dioxide.

6. (original) A carrier formed by carrying an odorant, a coloring agent, an antibacterial agent or a catalyst in the fine pores of the porous metal oxide material in a flake form according to Claim 1.
7. (original) A cosmetic comprising the porous metal oxide material in a flake form according to Claim 1.
8. (original) The cosmetic according to Claim 7, wherein the cosmetic contains the flake form of 0.1-95 % by weight.
9. (original) A cosmetic comprising the carrier according to Claim 6.
10. (original) A coating composition comprising the porous metal oxide material in a flake form according to Claim 1.
11. (original) A coating composition comprising the carrier according to Claim 6.
12. (original) A resin composition comprising the porous metal oxide material in a flake form according to Claim 1.
13. (original) A resin composition comprising the carrier according to Claim 6.
14. (original) A resin molded body molded by using the resin composition according to Claim 12 or 13.
15. (original) An ink composition comprising the carrier according to Claim 6.

16. (original) A paper comprising the porous metal oxide material in a flake form according to Claim 1.

17. (currently amended) A method for producing a porous metal oxide material in a flake form according to ~~any one of Claim 1 or Claim 2~~, which comprises:

applying a colloid solution containing colloidal particles of the metal oxide having a particle diameter of 5 to 500 nm on a substrate;

drying to solidify the colloid solution;

delaminating the resultant solid from the substrate; and

heating the solid.

18. (previously presented) The method for producing the porous metal oxide material in a flake form according to Claim 17, wherein the porous metal oxide material in a flake form primarily contains at least one kind selected from the group consisting of silicon dioxide (SiO_2), magnesium oxide (MgO), aluminum oxide (Al_2O_3), zirconium oxide (ZrO_2), zinc oxide (ZnO), chrome oxide (Cr_2O_3), titanium dioxide (TiO_2), antimony trioxide (Sb_2O_3), and iron oxide (Fe_2O_3).